

## Observed Seat Belt Use Rates (%) in Washington Counties\*

Passenger Vehicle Occupants only, Multi-year comparison

County	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002♦	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986
Clallam	97.8	96.4	98.9	98.2	97.6	96.7	92.9	85.0	89.1	88.2	89.2	86.3	80.4	80.6	77.2	78.8	72.2	69.7	57.8	50.6	45.2	44.1	39.5
Clark	98.8	97.9	98.7	97.9	92.9	94.9	84.9	80.4	88.2	89.0	82.9	89.4	91.1	89.2	72.1	66.3	77.8	59.6	#	52.6	45.3	42.2	39.9
Cowlitz	98.8	98.0	98.0	97.3	93.9	97.4	87.3	83.9	81.4	81.8	83.7	85.7	83.5	83.7	86.7	85.3	57.1	62.1	49.5	45.5	42.4	43.1	43.1
Franklin	94.4	94.2	94.8	92.9	92.5	91.4	87.3	68.1	64.4	66.3	NA	69.5	76.0	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Grant	90.2	93.0	95.2	94.6	95.1	97.1	93.4	86.3	73.3	73.7	73.9	78.2	78.0	78.3	73.1	82.8	58.4	53.4	47.6	44.2	46.5	49.8	36.1
King	98.3	97.9	97.4	97.2	97.4	96.1	93.4	85.4	83.9	87.5	87.4	85.2	84.9	84.6	85.8	72.4	76.6	70.7	72.4	65.6	61.9	56.7	46.3
Kittitas	96.6	96.6	97.4	96.3	96.6	97.2	96.7	75.5	78.1	75.9	83.8	77.4	80.6	82.6	82.2	68.9	69.0	69.7	55.6	64.9	66.8	57.1	37.6
Klickitat	94.5	91.4	93.8	91.4	91.2	90.7	89.4	70.4	63.5	71.8	70.3	64.5	80.3	90.5	82.4	82.4	78.0	78.4	#	38.2	56.2	48.1	24.2
Lincoln	89.3	89.6	88.4	87.6	85.8	88.7	79.8	71.3	76.8	72.1	72.7	73.8	77.1	72.3	73.2	74.0	63.2	69.1	#	52.1	58.6	47.4	43.3
Mason	93.3	95.8	97.6	95.6	94.4	96.1	95.8	79.7	75.1	76.6	77.3	80.7	81.6	82.6	78.0	86.2	73.7	66.4	44.7	49.6	53.9	41.2	33.1
Pierce	95.3	93.9	93.9	90.5	89.9	90.7	90.0	83.5	81.0	78.5	81.2	77.6	90.4	89.6	73.9	72.4	72.1	77.6	71.9	73.5	70.8	63.2	44.0
Snohomish	98.0	97.3	94.7	93.9	92.5	93.0	93.0	83.9	84.8	82.5	84.9	82.0	81.0	83.3	81.3	81.4	77.4	69.6	#	62.5	54.3	58.4	44.2
Spokane	93.0	93.6	93.4	91.8	92.5	90.2	90.3	79.5	82.5	77.8	77.0	74.9	75.7	74.3	73.3	72.5	70.3	65.3	#	59.5	58.1	58.5	28.4
Stevens	88.4	91.5	92.9	92.6	79.9	83.0	82.8	60.8	73.6	62.4	70.6	68.7	70.5	68.6	70.2	66.2	53.6	49.4	#	41.2	29.8	34.1	21.7
Thurston	94.3	95.3	94.5	90.7	92.2	98.1	88.3	86.3	82.4	83.1	85.0	86.2	86.0	86.9	87.2	88.2	82.0	76.0	58.9	58.5	57.9	56.7	45.1
Walla Walla	96.0	98.5	95.5	95.7	96.3	93.5	92.4	78.3	77.6	76.6	76.2	65.5	73.8	71.6	69.2	72.4	63.2	61.5	60.6	52.5	57.7	53.3	30.4
Whatcom	96.1	97.4	95.2	93.1	93.7	95.1	91.5	85.7	85.7	87.0	87.3	84.7	88.6	82.4	84.6	76.7	82.6	75.2	#	59.9	66.8	61.1	51.1
Whitman	83.1	87.0	90.1	77.4	85.4	92.0	80.3	70.8	77.2	71.9	73.4	75.5	69.3	75.8	82.0	71.2	69.7	66.5	#	56.1	53.0	42.5	28.9
Yakima	94.0	93.3	96.0	95.0	92.9	92.0	90.2	68.1	66.9	69.2	71.3	75.2	68.5	68.6	62.6	66.3	55.9	70.0	50.9	45.2	44.5	52.3	37.2
State Use Rate^	96.5%	96.4%	96.3%	95.2%	94.2%	94.8%	92.6%	82.6%	81.6%	81.1%	79.1%	78.0%	81.0%	80.0%	77.0%	73.0%	68.0%	69.0%	NA	55.0%	53.0%	52.0%	36.0%

# Seatbelt survey only partially completed in 1990

@ Franklin County first observed in 1996

♦ The primary-enforcement seat belt law became effective on 6/13/02; two statewide surveys were conducted, one in June and the other in September.

The September survey results are included here.

^ Calculated through the use of a weighted formula approved by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

\* **N.B.** The Washington Traffic Safety Commission conducts a statewide observation survey every year to estimate seat belt use by front-seat passenger-vehicle occupants.

The survey is conducted in accord with NHTSA-approved survey protocols in order to reach an overall state estimate only. Individual county use rates should therefore NOT be treated as precise estimates because over-sampling or under-sampling of certain data characteristics will likely occur in any given county in order to obtain a valid **statewide** sample.

Source: WTSC Seatbelt Use Observation Surveys